



Pal 23-8 Camb
Department of State
TELEGRAM

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21
ACTION EA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 CIA-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00
NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 NIC-01 CU-04
UPW-01 IO-13 SY-03 OPR-02 O-03 RSR-01 /129 W
129544

P 120415Z MAR 70
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 252
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
CINCPAC 80
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 0235T EXEMPTIONS

MANILA FOR RLG

DIA FOR DIACO-3

SUBJECT: AGMI-NVN/VC DEMONSTRATIONS AFTERMATH

1. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION EVENING MARCH 11 WAS NOISY ONE WITH VARIOUS DEPUTIES ATTACKING NVN/VC, CALLING FOR DRASTIC ACTION REMOVE LATTER FROM CAMBODIA, SUPPORTING EARLIER SACKING OF EMBASSIES, IN SOME CASES OFFERING VOLUNTER FIGHT AND ASKING THAT COUNTRY BE PREPARED FIGHT IF NEED BE. TWO OF MAIN SPEAKERS WERE SIM VAR AND DOUC RASY WHO OFTEN HAVE OPPOSED SIHANOUK IN PAST. ONE DEPUTY CITED NECESSITY FINDING ONE TRUE FOREIGN FRIEND. STUDENT GROUP ATTENDED MEETING AND SUPPORTED SPEECHES. NOONE TOOK FLOOR TO CONDEMN MORNINGS ACTIONS OR TO DEFEND NV/VC. FIGURE OF 60,000 VIETCONG IN CAMBODIA MENTIONED FOR FIRST TIME.

2. HOUSE OF LT. COL. UM SAVUTH, COMMANDER PHNOM PENH MILITARY DISTRICT BUT PRESENTLY ON OPERATIONS RATTANAKIRI, ATTACKED-

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Johnson Penh 2351

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>Smithley</u>	DATE <u>10/9/80</u>
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE	
TS AUTH. REASON(S)	
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐	
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒	
CLASS DENIED ☐	
EXEMPTIONS	



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RUMORS SAY BECAUSE HAS IN PAST PUT UP VC AND BECAUSE OF REPORTS HAD LARGE QUANTITY COUNTERFEIT 500 RIEL NOTE AT TIME OF NEW NOTE ISSUE, AS WELL AS BECAUSE HIS WIFE INVOLVED RICE SALES TO VC.

3. LOCAL EMPLOYEE REPORTS THAT TROOPS IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES PARTICIPATED IN SACKING NVN/VC CHANCERIES AND THAT LARGE NUMBERS US DOLLAR CHECKS AND OTHER CURRENCIES FOUND IN VN PRESS OFFICERS HOUSE/OFFICE.

4. REPORTS CIRCULATING THAT: WAS OUM MANORINE (SECSTATE INTERIOR RESPONSIBLE FOR SURFACE DEFENSE AND HALF-BROTHER PRINCES MONIQUE) AND SOSTHENE FERNANDEZ (SECSTATE INTERIOR RESPONSIBLE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY) MAYBE CALLED UP AGAIN BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RE ALLEGED SMUGGLING IN ORDER FORCE (OR PERHAPS ASSIST) RKG REMOVE THEM FROM PRESENT JOBS.

5. LAST NIGHT GENERALLY QUIET. THERE WERE A FEW DEMONSTRATIONS BUT IT UNCLEAR WHAT THEY WERE ABOUT EXCEPT ONE BY TAXIS AGAINST LADIES DOUBTFUL REPUTE (PERHAPS NOT GETTING THEIR CUT). IN SOME CASES VIETNAMESE SHACKS TORN DOWN BY POLICE, AS WELL AS BY SMALL CROWDS AND A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF ARRESTS REPORTED.

6. FROM VOA BROADCAST HEARD TODAY THAT SIHANOUK FURIOUS AND RETURNING IMMEDIATELY, IT APPEARS THAT HE AND RKG DEFINITELY HAVE NOT BEEN ON SAME WAVE LENGTH LAST FEW DAYS. IF AND WHEN HE DOES RETURN, PHNOM PENH SHOULD BE IN FOR INTERESTING TIME FOR IT DIFFICULT SEE HOW RKG AND ASSEMBLY CAN BACK DOWN VERY FAR NOW. QUESTION WILL BE HOW SITUATION CAN BE ARRANGED WITH MINIMUM LOSE FACE ON EVERY SIDE, UNLESS PRINCE REALLY DECIDES FORCE ISSUE. IN THIS CASE, HE COULD THEORETICALLY DISMISS RKG AND ASSEMBLY AND ASSUME PERSONAL RULE-BUT WOULD SANGKUM AND MILITARY FOLLOW HIM. OTHERWISE HE MIGHT RESIGN AS HE HAS PREVIOUSLY THREATENED TO AND PERHAPS FIND OFFER ACCEPTED.

7. PERHAPS MOST VITAL QUESTION OF ALL IS VN/VC RESPONSE. IF THEY SO DECIDE THEY FULLY CAPABLE START A SECOND LAOS. HOWEVER THIS WOULD SEEM SHORT SIGHTED SINCE A "NEUTRAL" CAMBODIA MUCH MORE USEFUL. MUCH WILL ALSO DEPEND ON CHICOM AND SOVIET REACTIONS BUT HERE AGAIN MAINTENANCE CAMBODIA AS IS WOULD APPEAR TO THEIR ADVANTAGE.

8. AS OF 1030 MARCH 12 CABINET IN EMERGENCY SESSION.
RETES

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